

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCI-01 NSF-04 L-03 USIA-12 /031 W

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R 261614Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7063

UNCLAS MADRID 6226

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL PFOR MARR EAID

SUBJ: NMA: TRANCE II NEGOTIATIONS

PASS NSF FOR BARTOCHA

REF: STATE 209831

1. EMBASSY REP RYLANCE AND NSF REP CLEMENT MET EVENING OCT 24 WITH MFA REP ZIFRA FOR FIRST LOOK AT SPANISH PROPOSALS NOW IN HAND. THESE WITHOUT EXCEPTION INCOMPLETE NOR HAVE ALL INTERESTED MINISTRIES SUBMITTED.

2. ORIGINAL TIMETABLE STILL VALID. SUBSTANCE AND BUDGETS OF S&T PROPOSALS WILL BE DEVELOPED THROUGH FREQUENT MFA-EMBASSY-NSF MEETINGS UNTIL NOV 21 WHEN NSF REP RETURNS WASHINGTON. NSF REP WILL THEN SEEK SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATION FROM US EXPERTS AND RESPONSES OF INTERESTED AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING DEPARTMENT, IN ORDER TO PREPARE AND SEND CONSOLIDATED REPORT THROUGH EMBASSY TO MFA. MFA, FOLLOWING FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH AND THROUGH EMBASSY WILL SEND DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO EMBASSY NO LATER THAN MID-DECEMBER, OUTLINING INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS OR COHERENT GROUPS OF PROJECTS IN FLEXIBLE TERMS, WITH APPROXIMATE DOLLAR ALLOCATIONS.

3. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN FOR TIMELY TRANSMITTAL OF PROJECT INFORMATION FOR DEPARTMENT REVIEW AND CAN ASSURE PROJECTS WILL BE DULY SUBMITTED. AS THEY WILL BE SCRUTINIZED BY MFA ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS
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THEY WILL BE FORWARDED IN SAME MANNER AS THEY

REACH ACCEPTABILITY STAGE. DEPARTMENT IS AWARE THAT FUNDING BY NSF OF US COUNTERPART AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS IS THE END PRODUCT OF CAREFUL CONTRACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH MAY LIMIT OR CONDITION THE BROAD AUTHORITY FOR COOPERATION IN A GIVEN AREA OF SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY DESCRIBED IN THE SPANISH DIPLOMATIC NOTE.

4. ESSENTIALLY THE SAME TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURE, EXCEPT FOR NSF INTERVENTION, WILL APPLY TO CHAPTER II ACTIVITIES.

5. CAUTIOUS EXPLORATION OF A SEPARATE MODEST FUNDING FOR ESSENTIAL TRAVEL (EXCEPT NSF SEE PARA 6 BELOW) RELATED TO NMA PROJECTS ELICITED LITTLE SYMPATHY BASED ON RATIONALE THAT EMBASSY REP IS BASED HERE; THAT THE NSF REP WILL BE TRAVELING ON REMNANT FIRST TRANCHE FUNDS; THAT REASON FOR ADDITIONAL TRAVEL OF OTHER REPRESENTATIONS NOT READILY APPARENT. WITH SOME INSISTENCE ON THIS POINT A RELUCTANT INDEFINITE CONCESSION WAS EXPRESSED THAT ADDITIONAL TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION WOULD BE MADE ONLY IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AND ON A CASE BASIS.

6. NSF REP TOUCHED ON NEED FOR PDM FUNDS FROM THIRD TRANCHE. THIS SUGGESTION ACCEPTED WITHOUT A FIRM FIGURE BEING ATTACHED.

7. EMBASSY WISHES EMPHASIZE PRELIMINARY NATURE THIS DISCUSSION AND FACT THAT SPECIFIC FIGURES AND PROJECTS DISCUSSED MUST BE REFINED WITH PROCEDURES MENTIONED PARA 2 TO BE FOLLOWED. DEPT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY DEVIATION FROM TIMETABLE.

8. MINISTRY REP ZIFRA STATED MOST POSITIVELY THAT SPLIT OF 2.2 MILLION FOR S/T AND .8 MILLION FOR CHAPTER II (EXCHANGES) WOULD CONTINUE AS PER AGREEMENT OF TWO DIRECTORS GENERAL CONCERNED IN MFA. EMB REP QUESTIONED FINALITY THIS DECISION AND RATIONALE WAS EXPLAINED CHIEFLY ON BASIS OF EXISTING FULBRIGHT PROGRAM OF MORE OR LESS PERMANENT STANDING THAT BROADENS EXCHANGE POTENTIAL AND ALSO PRIORITY IN SPAIN OF S&T.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MADRID06226
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731010/aaaaagtq.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 209831
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NMA: TRANCE II NEGOTIATIONS PASS NSF FOR BARTOCHA
TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, MARR, EAID
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005